(b) what is the amount of tax recovered through the above cases; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the scheme has failed during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Number of persons who paid tax under section 115-K in the whole of the country and in Maharashtra / Gujarat is as under:—

	Financial Year	
	1992-93	1993-94
	lakhs	lakhs
The whole country	1.16	1.96
Maharashtra	11,047	14,270
Gujarat	4,507	6,996

(b) the amount collected in the above cases is as under:—

	Financial Year	
	1992-93	1993-94
The whole country	16.47 Cr.	27.53 Cr.
Maharashtra	1.61 Cr.	2.07 Cr.
Gujarat	63.75 Lakhs	98.28 Lakhs

(c) for the following reasons it is not correct to say that the scheme has failed in the last two years:—

(i) the scheme is purely optional and hence traders can opt to file regular returns of income under the Income tax Act, 1961 instead of paying tax under section 115-K. As a matter of fact the number of new regular assessees added during the Financial Year 1991-92 was mere 2.67 lakhs as compared to 5.68 lakhs in Financial Year 1992-93 and 13.91 lakhs in Financial Year 1993-94 when the Presumptive Tax Scheme under section 115-K was in operation;

(ii) as the Scheme itself is novel in the sense that it has been designed to attract very small businessmen, it is possible that there is some initial hesitancy;

(iii) it is likely that it will take some time for the knowledge about the benefits of the Scheme to percolate down to the target group. That the response is picking up is clear from the fact that the number of tax payers under section 115-K has increased from 1.16 lakhs in financial year 1992-93 to 1.96 lakhs in financial year 1993-94.

Registered newspapers published from North-Eastern States

3761. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of newspapers published from North-Eastern States, State-wise, registered with Registrar of Newspapers of India alongwith the details of their respective month-wise circulation during the last three years;

(b) the respective dates on which these newspapers started their publication;

(c) which of these newspapers possess certification from Audit Bureau of circulation; and

(d) the names of pressmen / correspondents belonging to these newspapers accredited with Press Information Bureau?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The information is given in the annexure. [*See* Appendix 171, an annexure No. 64]. The circulation figures are based on the annual statement furnished by the publishers of these newspapers. Monthwise circulation figures of newspaper are not maintained by the office of Registrar of newspapers for India (RNI).

(c) The Government does not maintain such particulars.

(d) The names are given below:

1. Shri Dev Prakash respresenting Assam Express (English Daily), Guwahati.
2. Shri M.N. Roy Choudhury representing Assam Tribune (Egnlish Dailly), Guwahati.
3. Shri P.B. Barathakur representing Dainik Janambhoomi (Assamese Daily), Jorhat.

4. Shri Nikhil Bhattacharaya representing Dainik Sambad (Bengali Daily), Agartala.

Development of Radio and T.V.

3762. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have sought cooperation from the State Governments for the development of radio and T.V.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of State Governments to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To provide infrastructure and security, for the existing as also the proposed All India Radio and Doordarshan projects.

(c) The State Governments have assured their cooperation in the matter of providing security and other infrastructural facilities to All India Radio and Doordarshan.

Doordarshan relay centres in Gujarat

3763. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cities and persons who have been benefited by the scheme of expansion of Doordarshan programmes which was implemented in February, 1994;

(b) what action Government have taken so far for finding out some simple and cheap methodology to extend the benefit of programmes to the common man in the country;

(c) what is the total number of Relay Centres working in Gujarat at present together with their respective capacity and whether Government feel that these Relay Centres are sufficient for the coverage of the entire population of that State; and

(d) if not, what action is proposed to be taken by Government to increase the number and capacity of Relay Centres in Gujarat and by when the benefits of these Centres is likely to reach all the people in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The entire country is receiving the Doordarshan programmes transmitted by satellite mode and receivable through suitable dish antenna, Doordarshan's programmes are also presently broadcast by terrestrial mode, to 66.8% of the country area-wise and 84.6% population-wise.

(b) The currently available simple and cheap technology for reception of TV programmes is through terrestrial mode. Government is endeavouring to increase the terrestrial coverage of the country by the installation of 610 transmitters of varying powers, in the coming years, subject to availability of resources and infrastructure.

(c) and (d) The details are given in Statement-I and Statement-II (*See* below). Gujarat is presently covered upto 77% population-wise and 65.5% area-wise, by terrestrial transmission. While an LPT / VLPT takes 1-2 years, HPT take 3-4 years for installation from their date of sanction, subject